

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:		)	
Bruce Tockman et al.		) Examiner: George R. Evanisko	
Serial No.:	09/630,000	) Group Art Unit: 3762	
Filed:	August 1, 2000	) Docket: 279.246US1	
For:	LEAD HAVING VARYING STIFFNESS AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THEREFOR)		

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## REPLY BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.41

Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Reply Brief is presented in response to the Examiner's Answer, dated February 16, 2006, which was sent in answer to Appellants' Appeal Brief, filed on December 7, 2005. Appellants' Appeal Brief was filed in response to the rejections of claims 16-26 and 43-46 of the above-identified application, as set forth in the Final Office Action mailed on March 17, 2004. Further, Appellants' Appeal Brief was sent in answer to the Notice of Non-compliant Appeal Brief dated November 9, 2005

Please charge any required additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account 19-0743.